In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1   1.   [Currently amended] A method for processing invoices
2   by having the individual employee of an enterprise creating
3   an original order for goods and services for end-use by said
4   individual employee determine that a resulting invoice
5   should be paid or not, comprising the steps of:

6   receiving at an enterprise accounting and catalog
7   system from said individual employee a requisition for
8   goods or services from a vendor for end-use by said
9   individual employee;

10   said enterprise accounting and catalog system preparing
11   from said requisition a purchase order;

12   said enterprise accounting and catalog system
13   submitting said purchase order selectively as one of an
14   EDI message and a paper purchasing document to said
15   vendor;

16   receiving from ~~said vendor~~ a first vendor an invoice

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17   for said goods or services ~~selectively~~ as an electronic

18   invoice ~~and a paper invoice, said electronic invoice~~

19   ~~being received~~ for processing by said enterprise

20   accounting and catalog system;

21   <u>receiving from a second vendor an invoice for goods or</u>

22   <u>services as a paper invoice</u> ~~and said paper invoice~~

23   ~~being received~~ for processing to said enterprise

24   accounting and catalog system by accounts payable

25   personnel other than said individual employee;

26   preparing an invoice image of an invoice received for

27   said goods or services ordered by said individual

28   employee;

29   storing said invoice image in an image store;

30   keying said image to invoice data;

31   said enterprise accounting and catalog system

32   communicating by electronic mail ~~an invoice~~ <u>a plurality</u>

33   <u>of</u> confirmation ~~request~~ <u>requests</u> to said individual

34   employee creating ~~said original order~~ <u>original orders</u>

35   for goods or services for end-use by said individual

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36   employee, each said request instructing said individual

37   employee to log on to said enterprise accounting and

38   catalog system, including said invoice data and a link

39   to said invoice image, and specifying that each said

40   invoice is subject selectively to negative confirmation

41   and positive confirmation processing,

42   said negative confirmation processing for a first

43   confirmation request including advising said individual

44   employee via e-mail that said invoice is confirmed

45   unless specifically not approved by said individual

46   employee, and said positive confirmation processing for

47   a second confirmation request including advising said

48   individual employee that said invoice will be confirmed

49   upon entry by said individual employee of approval;

50   providing at a user workstation a search interface in

51   said enterprise accounting and catalog system for said

52   individual employee to enter criteria and have links to

53   images of invoices that match said criteria be

54   displayed at said user workstation; and

55   responsive to selection of a link by said individual,

56   displaying said invoice image for approval by said

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57   individual creating said original order selectively by

58   said negative confirmation and positive confirmation

59   processing.

1   2.   [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising

2   the step of:

3   preparing said invoice images by scanning paper

4   invoices received from a vendor.

1   3.   [Previously presented] The method of claim 2, further

2   comprising the step of:

3   preparing other of said invoice images by converting

4   electronic invoices received from a vendor into an

5   image file representation having the look of a paper

6   invoice.

1   4.   [Previously presented] The method of claim 1, said

2   invoice confirmation request advising said individual

3   employee to process said confirmation as negative

4   confirmation or a positive confirmation.

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1   5.   [Previously presented]   The method of claim 4, said

2   invoice confirmation request further advising said

3   individual employee to log on to a front-end requisition and

4   catalog server to view invoices for confirmation.

1   6.   [Previously presented]   The method of claim 5, further

2   comprising the step responsive to said individual employee

3   logging on to. said front-end server of displaying a list of

4   invoices awaiting confirmation and responsive to user

5   selection of a selected invoice, presenting images of

6   invoices corresponding to links selected by said individual

7   employee.

1   7.   [Previously presented]   The method of claim 1, further

2   comprising the steps of presenting to said individual

3   employee an interface for selecting images of invoices

4   matching a selection criteria.

8.   [Canceled]

1   9.   [Currently amended]   A system for processing invoices

2   by having the individual employee creating an original order

3   for goods or services for end use by said individual

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4   determine that a resulting invoice should be paid or not,

5   comprising:

6   a front-end requisition and catalog system;

7   a back-end procurement services system;

8   a scanner for scanning images of invoices;

9   an image system and store for storing said scanned

10   images and serving them to said workstation keyed to

11   said invoice;

12   a workstation selectively receiving user entry from

13   said individual employee of a requisition request for

14   goods or services for end-use by said individual

15   employee, receiving confirmation requests, and viewing

16   images of invoices from said image system and store;

17   said confirmation request instructing said individual

18   employee to log on to said back-end system to view and

19   approve <u>a first invoice</u> ~~an invoice selectively~~ by

20   negative and <u>a second invoice by</u> positive confirmation

21   processing, said negative confirmation processing

22   including advising said individual employee via e-mail

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23   that said invoice is confirmed unless specifically not

24   approved by said individual employee, and said positive

25   confirmation processing including advising said

26   individual employee that said invoice will be confirmed

27   upon entry by said individual employee of approval;

28   said front-end system selectively receiving said

29   requisition requests from said workstation, forwarding

30   said requisition requests to said back-end system, and

31   receiving confirmation requests from said back-end

32   system for forwarding to said workstation; and

33   said back-end system selectively issuing purchase

34   orders against said requisitions to a vendor

35   ~~selectively~~ at least one invoice as ~~one of an~~

36   electronic invoice and another invoice as a paper

37   purchase order, receiving and processing invoices

38   electronic invoices directly from said vendor and paper

39   invoices as received and processed by accounts payable

40   personnel other than said individual employee, keying

41   invoice images to invoice information, and processing

42   confirmation requests to said front-end system for

43   communication to said workstation for approval by said

44   individual employee creating said original order for

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45   goods or services for end use by said individual

46   employee.

1   10.   [Currently amended]   A program storage device readable

2   by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions

3   executable by a machine to perform a method for processing

4   invoices by having the individual employee creating an

5   original order as an end user of a commodity or service

6   determine that a resulting invoice should be paid or not,

7   said method comprising:

8   receiving a plurality of invoices;

9   preparing for each said invoice an invoice image;

10   storing said invoice image in an image store;

11   keying said image to invoice data;

12   communicating first and second invoice confirmation

13   request requests to said individual employee, each said

14   request including said invoice data for respective

15   invoice confirmation requests and a link respective

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16   links to said invoice image invoice images;

17   responsive to requester selection of said of a first

18   link, displaying said invoice a corresponding invoice

19   image to said individual employee for approval by said

20   individual employee creating said original order

21   according to a specified confirmation process,

22   consisting selectively of said individual employee

23   processing a first invoice by a negative confirmation

24   process including advising said individual employee via

25   e-mail that said first invoice is confirmed unless

26   specifically not approved by said individual employee,

27   and said individual employee processing a second

28   invoice by a positive confirmation process including

29   advising said individual employee that said invoice

30   will be confirmed upon entry by said individual

31   employee of approval.

1   11.   [Currently amended]   A computer program product for

2   processing invoices by having the individual employee

3   creating an original order for goods and services for end-

4   use by said individual employee determine that a resulting

5   invoice should be paid or not according to steps comprising:

6   receiving at an enterprise accounting and catalog

7   system from <u>one or more of</u> said individual ~~employee~~

8   <u>employees a plurality of</u> ~~a requisition~~ <u>requisitions</u> for

9   goods or services from a vendor for end use by said

10 individual ~~employee~~ <u>employees</u>;

11 said enterprise accounting and catalog system preparing

12 from said ~~requisition a purchase order~~ <u>requisitions a</u>

13 <u>plurality of purchase orders</u>;

14 said enterprise accounting and catalog system

15 submitting <u>each</u> said purchase order selectively as EDI

16 message and a paper purchasing document ~~to said~~ <u>a</u>

17 vendor;

18 receiving ~~from said~~ <u>from a first</u> vendor an invoice for

19 said goods or services ~~selectively~~ as an electronic

20 invoice ~~and a paper invoice~~, said electronic invoice

21 being received for processing by said enterprise

22 accounting and catalog system<u>;</u>

23 <u>receiving from a second vendor an invoice for said</u>

24 <u>goods or serves as a paper invoice,</u> ~~and said~~ <u>said</u> paper

25 invoice being received for processing to said

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26   enterprise accounting and catalog system by accounts

27   payable personnel other than said individual employee;

28   preparing ~~an invoice image~~ invoice images of ~~an invoice~~

29   a plurality of invoices received for said goods or

30   services ordered by said individual ~~employee~~ employees;

31   storing said invoice ~~image in~~ invoice images in an

32   image store;

33   keying each said image to corresponding invoice data;

34   said enterprise accounting and catalog system

35   communicating by electronic mail an invoice

36   confirmation request for each invoice image to said

37   individual employee, said request instructing said

38   individual employee to log on to said enterprise

39   accounting and catalog system, including said invoice

40   data and a link to said invoice image, and specifying

41   that said invoice is selectively subject to negative

42   confirmation and positive confirmation processing, a

43   first invoice processed by said negative confirmation

44   processing including advising said individual employee

45   via e-mail that said first invoice is confirmed unless

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46   specifically not approved by said individual employee,

47   and a second invoice processed by said positive

48   confirmation processing including advising said

49   individual employee that said invoice will be confirmed

50   upon entry by said individual employee of approval;

51   providing at a user workstation a search interface in

52   said enterprise accounting and catalog system for said

53   individual employee to enter criteria and have links to

54   images of invoices that match said criteria be

55   displayed at said user workstation; and

56   responsive to selection of a link by said individual

57   employee, displaying said invoice image for approval by

58   said individual employee creating said original order

59   for goods or services for end use by said individual

60   employee selectively by said negative confirmation and

61   positive confirmation processing.

1   12. [Previously presented] The program storage device of

2   claim 10, said method further comprising:

3   preparing said invoice images by scanning paper

4   invoices received from a vendor.

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1   13.   [Previously presented]   The program storage device of

2   claim 12, said method further comprising:

3   preparing other of said invoice images by converting

4   electronic invoices received from a vendor into an

5   image file representation having the look of a paper

6   invoice.

1   14.   [Previously presented]   The program storage device of

2   claim 10, said invoice confirmation request advising said

3   individual employee to process said confirmation as negative

4   confirmation or a positive confirmation.

1   15.   [Previously presented]   The program storage device of

2   claim 14, said invoice confirmation request further advising

3   said individual employee to log on to a front- end

4   requisition and catalog server to view invoices for

5   confirmation.

1   16.   [Previously presented]   The program storage device of

2   claim 15, said method further comprising responsive to said

3   individual employee logging on to said front-end server of

4   displaying a list of invoices awaiting confirmation and

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5   responsive to selection of a selected invoice by said

6   individual employee, presenting images of invoices

7   corresponding to links selected by said individual employee.

1   17. [Previously presented] The program storage device of

2   claim 10, said method further comprising presenting to said

3   individual employee an interface for selecting images of

4   invoices matching a selection criteria.

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